

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A two-stage method of producing a ceramic article comprising:

casting a slip under pressure into a mold in order to form a deposit, said slip being flocculated and initially contained in a first tank; and

once said slip has been cast into a deposit, filtering a solution containing a deflocculant through the deposit, said solution being initially contained in a second tank distinct from said first tank, and being distinct from said slip contained in said first tank.

2. (cancelled)

3. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the slip comprises kaolin.

4. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the slip comprises clay.

5. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the slip comprises quartz.

6. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the deflocculant represents at most 3% by weight of the article.

7. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the deflocculant represents at most 5% by weight of the solution.

8. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the deflocculant represents between 0.20% and 3% by weight of the solution.

9. (previously presented) A ceramic article, characterized in that it is produced by the process as claimed in claim 1.

10. (previously presented) The article as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that it is formed in a ceramic chosen from the following group: porcelain, vitreous china, earthenware and stoneware.

11. (previously presented) An intermediate product for the purpose of producing a ceramic article, characterized in that the product is obtained from the mold after the steps set out in claim 1.

12. (currently amended) A device for producing a ceramic article, comprising a mold and a first tank suitable for containing a slip, characterized in that the device comprises a second tank suitable for containing a filtration solution containing a deflocculant, the solution being distinct from the slip and the first tank, ~~and means for injecting under pressure~~ two independent injectors assigned to inject, into the mold, alternately, and separately, the slip from the first tank and the solution from the second tank through two distinct upstream paths.

13. (cancelled)

14. (previously presented) A ceramic article produced by the process as claimed in claim 3.

15. (previously presented) A ceramic article produced by the process as claimed in claim 4.

16. (previously presented) A ceramic article produced by the process as claimed in claim 5.

17. (previously presented) A ceramic article produced by the process as claimed in claim 6.

18. (previously presented) A ceramic article produced by the process as claimed in claim 7.

19. (previously presented) A ceramic article produced by the process as claimed in claim 8.